

STUDIES IN AUSTRALIAN EMBIOPTERA.

PART VI. RECORDS OF THE GENUS METOLIGOTOMA FROM VICTORIA.

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(Ten Text-figures.)

[Read 26th May, 1943.]

Introduction.

Species of the genus *Metoligotoma* have been recorded from Queensland, New South Wales and Tasmania (Davis, 1938, 1940), but previously no records have been made from Victoria except unidentified larvae, probably referable to the genus, from Warrandyte (Davis, 1938, p. 249). Recent collecting has brought to light series, including adult males, from three localities in southern Victoria. All are very closely related to *M. minima* Davis 1938 (p. 245; figs. 93-96), to which species they are provisionally referred as a distinct subspecies. As in the type subspecies, the process of the left hemitergite of the male tenth abdominal tergite is bifid; there are still no Victorian records of the series with this process simple, although *M. tasmanica* Davis (Tasmania and Furneaux Group) and *M. begae* Davis (Bega, N.S.W.; the previous most southerly record for the mainland) belong to this series.

METOLIGOTOMA MINIMA Davis 1938.

PROC. LINN. SOC. N.S.W., lxiii, p. 245, figs. 93-96.

METOLIGOTOMA MINIMA MINIMA Davis 1938, l.c.

Type locality.—Near Brogo, N.S.W. Also recorded from Quaamaa, N.S.W.

METOLIGOTOMA MINIMA VICTORIAE, n. subsp. Figs. 1-7.

♂. Length 8.5-10.0 mm. Colour as in the type subspecies, shiny black to the naked eye. Head 1.7-2.2 mm. \times 1.5-1.9 mm., structure as in the type subspecies. Antennae up to 3.3 mm. long, with up to 16 segments. Terminalia (Figs. 1-4) differing slightly from the type subspecies in the inner process of the right hemitergite, which carries a tapered forwardly-directed lobe, and in the left cercus-basipodite, which is more bluntly rounded terminally. Process of left hemitergite bifid, its lateral spine directed backward and to the left, and elbowed (Figs. 3-4); in the type series of *M. minima minima* (Brogo, N.S.W.; figs. 8-9) this spine is not elbowed, and is usually not directed backwards; in a series of *M. m. minima* from Quaamaa, N.S.W. (Fig. 10), it is smoothly curved, directed backwards and outwards. Fourteen males examined.

♀. Length 8.0-11.5 mm.; head 1.4-1.5 mm. \times 1.1-1.3 mm.; antennae up to 2.4 mm. long, with up to 15 segments. Colour as in the type subspecies. Wingless and larviform, and throughout normal for the genus. Twenty-one females examined.

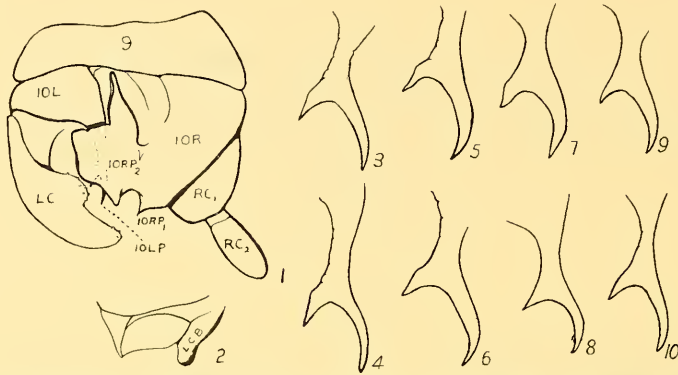
Type Locality.—Black Rock, Melbourne, coll. F. Rickwood and the author, 12.xii.42. Among dead leaves under shrubs, on cliffs 20-30 ft. above the sea.

Holotype ♂, allotype ♀, and three paratypes of each sex, in the Macleay Museum, University of Sydney.

Additional localities:

(1). Timbered hills one mile north-west of Tallarook, Victoria, amongst dead Eucalyptus leaves, coll. C. R. W. Ashdown and the author, 2.xii.42. Twelve males, length 8.5-12.5 mm.; head 1.5-2.2 mm. \times 1.2-1.7 mm.; antennae up to 3.0 mm., with

up to 17 segments; colour more dull than in type series; terminalia as in type series, process of left hemitergite (Figs. 5-6) with lateral spine elbowed. Twenty females, length 8.5-12.0 mm.; head 1.3-1.7 mm. \times 1.1-1.2 mm.; antennae incomplete; colour and structure as in type series.



Figs. 1-7.—*Metoligotoma minima victoriae*, n. subsp. 1. Holotype σ , terminalia from above, \times 30 (9, ninth abdominal tergite; 10L, 10R, left and right hemitergites of tenth abdominal tergite; 10 LP, process of 10L; 10RP₁, 10RP₂, posterior and inner processes of 10R; RC₁, RC₂, segments of right cercus; LC, left cercus). 2. Holotype σ , left cercus-basipodite (LCB), showing sclerotization, and process of hypandrium, from below, \times 30. 3-7. Process of σ left hemitergite from above, \times 45. 3-4, paratypes, Black Rock; 5-6, Tallarook series; 7, Puckapunyal series.

Figs. 8-10.—*M. m. minima* Davis, process of σ left hemitergite from above, \times 45. 8-9. Range of variation in type series (Brogo, N.S.W.). 10. σ from Quaama, N.S.W.

(2). South-easterly slopes of timbered hills two miles south-west of Mt. Puckapunyal, Victoria, amongst dead Eucalyptus leaves, collected by the author, 20.xii.42. Sixteen males, length 10.0-12.5 mm.; head 1.6-2.0 mm. \times 1.3-1.7 mm.; antennae up to 3.5 mm., with up to 17 segments; colour and structure as in type series, process of left hemitergite (Fig. 7) with lateral spine elbowed. Ten females, length 10.0-14.0 mm.; head 1.3-1.5 mm. \times 1.0-1.2 mm.; antennae up to 2.5 mm., with up to 16 segments. Colour and structure as in type series.

Specimens of each sex from these two localities in the Macleay Museum, University of Sydney.

References.

- DAVIS, C., 1938.—Studies in Australian Embioptera. iii. Proc. LINN. Soc. N.S.W., 63 (3-4): 226-272.
 ———, 1940.—Id., iv. Ibid., 65 (1-2): 155-160.

CORRIGENDUM.

- Davis, 1942 (Part v of this series): Page 332.—Explanation of Text-figures 1-3, line 3. *for* membranous *read* non-membranous.